

DOCKET NO. 58-0102-0505 – Revisions to Proposed Rule

010. DEFINITIONS.

For the purpose of the rules contained in IDAPA 58.01.02, “Water Quality Standards,” the following definitions apply: (4-11-06)

341. Ephemeral Waters. A stream, reach, or water body that flows naturally only in direct response to precipitation in the immediate watershed and whose channel is at all times above the water table. ~~Such channels are generally characterized by an absence of water dependent plants, indistinct banks, and the inability to support benthic aquatic animal communities even seasonally.~~ (4-11-06)

596. Natural Background Conditions. ~~No measurable change in lowering of water quality from the physical, chemical, biological, or radiological conditions existing in a water body without human sources of pollution within the watershed. Natural disturbances including, but not limited to, wildfire, mineralogy geologic disturbance, diseased vegetation, or flow extremes that affect the physical, chemical, and biological integrity of the water are part of natural background conditions. Natural background conditions inherently vary with time and place and therefore are not usually the best possible condition.~~ Natural background conditions should be described and evaluated taking into account this inherent variability with time and place in this context. (3-15-02)()

(BREAK IN CONTINUITY OF SECTIONS)

200. GENERAL SURFACE WATER QUALITY CRITERIA.

The following general water quality criteria apply to all surface waters of the state, in addition to the water quality criteria set forth for specifically designated waters. (4-5-00)

01. Hazardous Materials. Surface waters of the state shall be free from hazardous materials in concentrations found to be of public health significance or to impair designated beneficial uses. These materials do not include suspended sediment produced as a result of nonpoint source activities. (8-24-94)

02. Toxic Substances. Surface waters of the state shall be free from toxic substances in concentrations that impair designated beneficial uses. These substances do not include suspended sediment produced as a result of nonpoint source activities. (8-24-94)

03. Deleterious Materials. Surface waters of the state shall be free from deleterious materials in concentrations that impair designated beneficial uses. These materials do not include suspended sediment produced as a result of nonpoint source activities. (8-24-94)

04. Radioactive Materials. (7-1-93)

a. Radioactive materials or radioactivity shall not exceed the values listed in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 1, Part 20, Appendix B, Table 2, Effluent Concentrations, Column 2. (8-24-94)

b. Radioactive materials or radioactivity shall not exceed concentrations required to meet the standards set forth in Title 10, Chapter 1, Part 20, of the Code of Federal Regulations for maximum exposure of critical human organs in the case of foodstuffs harvested from these waters for human consumption. (7-1-93)

05. Floating, Suspended or Submerged Matter. Surface waters of the state shall be free from floating, suspended, or submerged matter of any kind in concentrations causing nuisance or objectionable conditions or that may impair designated beneficial uses. This matter does not include suspended sediment produced as a result of nonpoint source activities. (8-24-94)

06. Excess Nutrients. Surface waters of the state shall be free from excess nutrients that can cause visible slime growths or other nuisance aquatic growths impairing designated beneficial uses.(8-24-94)

07. Oxygen-Demanding Materials. Surface waters of the state shall be free from oxygen-demanding materials in concentrations that would result in an anaerobic water condition. (7-1-93)

08. Sediment. Sediment shall not exceed quantities specified in Sections 250 and 252, or, in the absence of specific sediment criteria, quantities which impair designated beneficial uses. Determinations of impairment shall be based on water quality monitoring and surveillance and the information utilized as described in Section 350. (4-5-00)

09. Natural Background Conditions as Criteria. When natural background conditions exceed any applicable water quality criteria set forth in Sections 210, 250, 251, 252, or 253, the applicable water quality criteria shall not apply; instead, pollutant levels shall not exceed the there shall be no lowering of water quality from natural background conditions. Provided, however, except that temperature levels may be increased above natural background conditions when allowed under Section 401. (3-15-02)(____)